

THE BELLOWS

24 GREAT YEAR

April 24, 2003

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXIV, No. 7

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South...Turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday April 24th..7:30 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:30 p.m.)
WHY	This our special <u>Show Experience Weekend Meeting</u> with guest speaker <u>Mr. Matthew R. Isenburg</u> . Please note that the this is NOT our usual meeting date on the Third Thursday but is the Fourth Thursday of April beginning our three day <u>Show Experince Weekend</u> . Please attend and bring your spouse and any interested friends.

APRIL MEETING DATE CHANGED TO FOURTH THURSDAY:

For the month of April only our regular meeting date has been changed to the 24th; which is the fourth Thursday in April. Please take note and do NOT show up on the third Thursday expecting our regular meeting....no one will be there.

OUR SHOW EXPERIENCE WEEKEND IS HERE:

The reason our meeting date was changed to the 24th was to allow us to kick off our Show Experience Weekend with a guest speaker. As was done last year with Mr. Eaton Lothrop your Show Committee has arranged for a top notch speaker. This year Mr. Matthew Isenburg of Hadlyme Connecticut will present his slide lecture, The Isenburg Collection in two parts: One, An overview of his collection as it is displayed in his home. And Two, What is involved in preparing a museum exhibition.

WHO THE HECK IS MATTHEW R. ISENBURG?:

Mr. Isenburg is the preeminent collector of daguerreotypes, and related items, in the United States. Only his holdings and the Library of Congress have daguerreotypes of both the Capitol and the White House. His collection, of over thirty-thousand items, includes over two dozen daguerreian cameras of which over half a dozen are complete outfits. He has an even larger number of early wet plate cameras and outfits.

In 1978 he co-authored a book titled "Photographica," which chronicled the development of the camera, and the images they took, from the beginning of photography through the nineteen fifties. In 1988 he and John Wood founded the Daguerreian Society which has over 1,000 members world wide and publishes a 300 page book annually.

He has lent parts of his collection for exhibit to many museums including the Smithsonian's National Museum of American Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC, the New Getty Museum in LA and many many more.

Mr. Isenburg has been a guest lecturer at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, George Eastman House in Rochester, NY and many many more.

He is a Navy Veteran of W.W. II with a Bachelor's degree from Northeastern U. with a minor in American History. He has been a Ford Dealer since 1956. He has six grown children and two grandchildren. He is a Fellow of the American Photo Historical Society and an honorary Kentucky Colonel. His talk is not to be missed.

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

The March meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:27 p.m. There were 42 members and guests in attendance. President Darrel asked the members to stand for a moment of silence remembering our troops. The minutes were then approved as read and Treasurer, Shirley, reported that she had **NOT** dipped into our bank account to finance her trip with husband John around the Great South West..thus we still had funds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chairman, Bill Kimber, reported that the Show Committee is going strong. Almost 200 tables have been reserved so far. Committee members reported that we have 16 display tables and our hospitality room is back in it's original hotel location. There will be a hosted beer and wine bar this year. Ed Fry reported that he had sent out press releases and placed ads. There are 4,709 post cards ready to mail. Stan Kirlin is working on the Club web page including notice of our Show. He also advertised a table for sale on eBay (one has sold, Ed.) (If you can't beat'em..join'em, Ed) When sellers drive onto the Fair Grounds the Fair will have them fill out a tag to hang on their rear view mirror. We still need parking and door help from our membership. One hours work will earn you the thanks of your Club and a \$15.00 early-in ticket.

NEW BUSINESS:

The March 30th Vancouver B.C. show was discussed in terms of potential problems going into and out of Canada at this time.

PROGRAM AND SHOW & TELL:

Shirley related the highlights of John and Her's vacation trip to the land of the sun. Not many photographic treasures were found..except for one overpriced figurine..but they had a fine time. Bill Kimber Shared three "favorite treasures" from his collection which were all purchased at our third Show and had come from an Everett camera store which closed in about 1932. Several members had interesting items for Show & Tell.

AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZE:

Seven items were auctioned for a total of \$105.00. John Sparrow won the door prize.

The meeting then adjourned for more nummie munching and wheeling and dealing.

THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Arizona Photographic Collectors:

What was the 1st Japanese 35mm focal plane shutter SLR to feature automatic exposure control, full or half frame capability and interchangeable bayonet mount lenses?



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for **The Bellows** should be sent to Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is: <http://www.geocities.com/pspcs/index.html>

Dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (509) 674-1916, ssparrow@eburg.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our last Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 darrelcam@jps.net

MAY NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE COMING:

Our May meeting will return to our regular third Thursday of the month date...which is May 15th. What will not return to help remind you of this is your May Newsletter. Your editor will be playing darts in some small rural English pub on May 15th. In fact, I will have been there since May 6th with no opportunity, or interest, in doing a May Newsletter. So, you may get a reminder card from Shirley but just to be on the safe side mark down May 15th PSPCS meeting on your calendar right now. This is the first time I have ever been unable to publish the monthly Newsletter. Then again, it is also the first time I have ever been invited to go to England. Hope the May meeting goes well. Ed.

OTHER NORTHWEST SHOWS COMING UP:

The Columbia Gorge Camera Club is presenting it's 8th Annual Gresham Camera Swap Meet on Saturday June 21, 2003 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Gresham Grange 875 NE Division St. Gresham, Oregon. This is just east of Portland of I-84 at the 238th exit. Go south to Hogan Rd..turn right onto Division. The Grange is on the right just past Cleveland (the street). Table costs are \$35.00 for one and \$65.00 for two. You can buy a half table for \$20.00. Admission is \$4.00..early bird is \$10.00 at 7:30 a.m. For information call (503) 239-8912. You may write to: Krystal..Columbia Gorge Camera Club..1640 SE Ellis St...Portland, OR 97202. This has been a very friendly but very small Show in the past. As it is being held on June 21st sellers may indeed find it to be a very long day.

The following is reprinted from the Arizona Photographic Collectors March 2003 Newsletter and is used with much thanks. Ed.

More Movies Photographica

by Paul Garrett

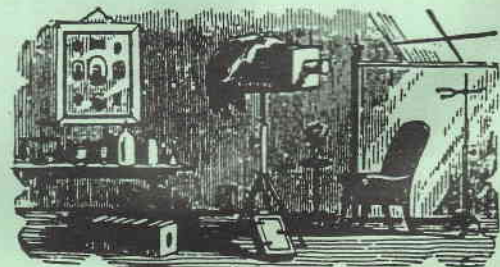
Our January newsletter issue has created several inquiries and questions regarding the article "Matchmatics In The Movies." A couple of other clubs have used the article in their newsletters and one wondered where all the press cameras materialized from for the movie Chicago. I have some insight into this as well and in another past movie effort to share.

The prop house in the LA area, History for Hire, worked very hard for over a year in attempting to amass 45 Pre Anniversary Graphics (early version with the folding top mounted optical view finder) that the producers wanted for *Chicago*. The problem was that they wanted them with flash attachments which were not around when the cameras were originally introduced in 1928 and the finder was changed to tubular in 1939. As a result, early flash guns had to also be located and mounted and folding view finders found for the later versions that were otherwise identical. Jim Elyea and his very able team at History for Hire did a great job and were able to fill the order. That prop house also has an incredibly extensive inventory of early movie studio equipment.

Movie productions had prop rooms and inventories of their own in years past but at this point they are using businesses who are equipped to fill their needs for almost anything that is needed for movies. Some specialize in automobiles, buses, trucks, tanks, etc., others specialize in furniture and others in costumes as well as you name it. History for Hire has probably the most extensive inventory of many categories in the business. If they don't have it they will find it.

About 15 years ago when I lived in Southern California and belonged to Western Photographic Collectors Association our organization was approached by Universal Studios to furnish equipment for the movie *The Public Eye* starring Joe Pesci which loosely covered Weegee's activities as a press photographer. You may remember the show where he worked out of the trunk of his car, in his small apartment and wherever he had to. I spent two days with a representative from the studio in authenticating dates of equipment and photo materials and in their choosing appropriate items. At the end they reproduced things like printed materials such as film boxes from samples they took. They also chose several cameras which they used in the movie. In lieu of renting the equipment they promised to give credits to WPCA in the movie for our help in research and equipment use (in the final analysis it did not happen).

At any rate, the movie was interesting,, the equipment looked good, and it was a very educational process for me. I discovered later the normal rental prices for equipment rentals but, alas, I have not had that opportunity since.



Close Calls

by Mike Kessler

For more than 25 years I had the best job imaginable; I traveled all over the U.S., visiting collectors and searching for photographic antiques. Along the way I filled my car with cameras from museums and collectors that needed restoration, returning them on my next trip east. Looking back I don't know how I survived.

Traveling literally on a shoestring, I had several close calls due to my habit of sleeping in my Volkswagen Beetle. Once I pulled off into an empty field to set up my "camp" when a nervous farmer, armed with a shotgun and two German shepherds, convinced me to move elsewhere. Then there was the time I was the only moving vehicle on the Interstate during an ice storm near Buffalo. Somehow, with clenched fists and parting with a few quarts of sweat, I managed to creep along the crown of the highway for more than 30 miles just to get to my appointment with a collector in Erie.

Mother nature gave me another jolt when, while crossing northern Texas on my way back to California from one of my annual trips, the sky suddenly got darker than a well digger's you-know-what. On the far horizon I could see the setting sun, underneath the storm clouds, silhouetting a picket fence of a dozen or so tornado funnels. I pulled at least six "g's" as I screeched the car around and headed for the nearest motel.

My closest call, though, may (or may not) have happened the time I was antiquing way up in northern Maine. My modus operandi involved stopping at every antique shop, second hand store and camera shop I could find, asking everyone there for old cameras or photography related stuff. During one such stop I was approached by a man who overheard my questions. "I've got a really old camera," he offered. "Great," I said, "What kind is it?" "Don't know" was his reply. "Well, is it wood?" "Yeah, it's wood." "Does it have bellows?" "Yeah, it's got bellows." "Red bellows?" "Yeah, red bellows." "Brass lens?" "Brass lens."

As this line of questioning went on, I started to have the feeling that I could suggest that it had green polka dots and he would say yes. What really worried me, though, was the fact that this guy, a kid really, of about 20 or so, was at least three times my size and his friend, who kept his mouth shut, outweighed me by at least 40 pounds.

"Why don't you follow me to my place outside of town and I'll show it to you?" I thought I detected a hint of nervous anticipation in his voice. By this time a little voice of my own was telling me to cool it. For a brief moment one particular scene in the movie *Deliverance* popped into my head.

I told my two new acquaintances that I had to see an antique dealer just down the street but that I would meet them in fifteen minutes and go take a look at their camera. Back in my car, I ducked into an alley and parked behind a dumpster where I would have a good view of the street. I waited there and watched for nearly an hour while the two guys drove back and forth through the length of the town, looking for yours truly. Finally when they went one way, I took off in the opposite direction with more than a little feeling of relief.

Did I miss out on a great antique camera or something else? I'll never know, but every time I recall the incident, I think of a line that I picked up somewhere and love to repeat. "Life's an I.Q. test." That time I think I passed the test.

Things you hear at flea markets:
"It runs good." or "It works good."
"It just needs a new battery." These are usually point & shoot cameras with a \$12-14 Lithium battery. Even if you replace the battery, it still doesn't work.

Answer: The Konica Auto-Reflex, c 1965 was also marketed by Konica as the Autorex and by Foto-Quelle as Revue Auto-Reflex. Subsequent Autoreflex models were spelled without the hyphen of the first model. (This information from *McKeown's* as well as an estimate of value of \$175-250)

